

DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

news release

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FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE ANNOUNCES NEW OFFICIALS FOR PLANNING AND BUDGET, FISHERY RESOURCES, AND BIOLOGICAL SERVICES

The Interior Department's U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has appointed three new officials to key offices, Service Director Lynn Greenwalt has announced.

Adam A. Sokoloski has been appointed assistant director--planning and budget, Thomas J. Parisot will fill the newly created position of deputy associate director--fishery resources, and John D. Buffington is the new chief of the Office of Biological Services.

Sokoloski, 41, will direct the planning and budget activities of the Fish and Wildlife Service, as well as its policy analysis and evaluation programs. He has served as acting assistant director--planning and budget, since 1978, and previously as chief of the agency's division of program plans, a position he assumed when he joined the Service in 1975.

Sokoloski's career with the Federal Government has included employment with the Economic Research Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the former Bureau of Commercial Fisheries in the Interior Department, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the National Commission on Water Quality. He received a citation from the Vice President in 1975 for his direction of economic studies at the Commission.

A native of South Deerfield, Massachusetts, Sokoloski received a B.A. in 1961 from Middlebury College, an M.S. in 1963 from Purdue University, and a Ph.D. in 1967 from Oregon State University, all in the field of economics, with specialization in agriculture and natural resources.

Parisot, 50, is a 23-year veteran of the Fish and Wildlife Service, who most recently served as chief of the program development staff for fishery resources activities. In his new job, Parisot will share management responsibilities for the agency's programs in fisheries assistance, hatcheries, engineering, and energy management with associate director Galen Buterbaugh.

Parisot joined the Service in 1957 as a junior scientist at the Fish Disease Laboratory in Seattle, Washington, and later became assistant director of the Fish Pesticide Research Laboratory in Columbia, Missouri. He became director of the National Fishery Research Laboratory in Seattle in 1974. Parisot's later assignments included staff assistantships to the Assistant Secretary of Interior for Fish and Wildlife and Parks, the Assistant Secretary of Interior for Program Policy, and the Service's assistant director for planning.

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A native of Butte, Montana, Parisot received a B.S. in microbiology and public health from Idaho State College in 1955 and an M.S. in the same field from Washington State College in 1957.

Buffington, 38, formerly senior staff member for environmental data and monitoring for the President's Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ), will head the Fish and Wildlife Service's office that studies the effects of major environmental changes on fish and wildlife resources. The Office of Biological Services analyzes potential environmental impacts of accelerated energy development, particularly impacts from coal, geothermal, mineral, and oil shale development; power plant siting; and Outer Continental Shelf exploration.

A native of Jersey City, New Jersey, Buffington comes to the Fish and Wildlife Service after 3 years at CEQ where he supervised environmental monitoring policy. There he was responsible for the development and publication of a series of statistical tables in a range of environmental areas, including wildlife, land use, and energy development. He developed a computer-based environmental analysis system used by CEQ and other Federal agencies to study trends in environmental quality and their relation to human health. Buffington also served as chairman of a Federal interagency task force on environmental data and monitoring.

From 1972 to 1977, Buffington held several positions at the Argonne National Laboratory in Illinois, a Federal Government research installation now part of the Department of Energy. Before that, he was assistant professor of ecology in the department of biological sciences at Illinois State University.

Buffington graduated from St. Peter's College in New Jersey with a B.S. in biology in 1963, followed by a master's degree in 1965 and a Ph.D. in 1967, both in animal ecology from the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana.

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